

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02330 010224Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
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R 010023Z AUG 78  
FM USLO PEKING  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1521  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
CINCPAC HONO HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2330

NOFORN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: CH, VN, LA, ID, SN, PEPR  
SUBJ: MFA OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON LAOS AND OTHER ISSUES

REFS: A. VIENTIANE 795; B. PEKING 1994

1. SUMMARY: PRC OFFICIALS ARE CONTINUING TO CRITICIZE LAOS IN THEIR PRIVATE COMMENTS TO FOREIGNERS. A MID-LEVEL PRC MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIAL TOLD USLO OFFICER JULY 29 THAT LAOS HAS ALREADY BEEN INCORPORATED INTO "VIETNAM'S SO-CALLED INDOCHINA FEDERATION" AND IS THEREFORE A PUPPET OF VIETNAM. HE ALSO STATED THE PRC WAS QUITE WILLING TO RE-ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA BUT INTERNAL INDONESIAN POLITICAL PROBLEMS WERE PREVENTING THE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

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2. PRC OFFICIALS ARE CONTINUING TO CRITICIZE LAOS IN THEIR PRIVATE COMMENTS TO FOREIGNERS (REF B). AT A THIRD COUNTRY RECEPTION JULY 29, USLO OFFICER WAS INTRODUCED TO CHEN WEN-YING, DEPUTY SECTION CHIEF OF THE SECTION DEALING WITH ASEAN IN THE PRC'S MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. DURING THE DISCUSSION, CHEN STATED THAT LAOS HAS BECOME A PUPPET

OF VIETNAM AND THIS IS WHAT THE VIETNAM-SPONSORED INDOCHINA FEDERATION IS ALL ABOUT. HE SAID THAT VIETNAM HAS SIX TO SEVEN DIVISIONS STATIONED IN LAOS AND THERE ARE VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS OCCUPYING KEY POSITIONS AT ALL LEVELS OF THE LAOTIAN GOVERNMENT.

3. CHEN THEN TURNED THE DISCUSSION TO VIETNAM AND ASKED USLO OFFICER'S OPINION ABOUT THE CURRENT SINO-VIETNAMESE DISPUTE. USLO OFFICER SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BETWEEN ALL NATIONS. CHEN SAID THAT THIS WAS MISSING THE POINT. THE DISPUTE SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED FROM A BILATERAL PERSPECTIVE BUT RATHER FROM A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE. HE SAID THAT "AN EXPANSIONIST SUPERPOWER, THE SOVIET UNION, WAS THE BACKSTAGE BOSS OF VIETNAM." USLO OFFICER INQUIRED IF HE PUT MUCH CREDENCE IN THE PRESS REPORTS THAT THE SOVIETS WERE USING CAM RANH BAY AS A MILITARY BASE. HE SAID THAT THIS COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED BUT THE "SOVIETS WERE DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN MOVING THEIR PACIFIC NAVAL BASE FROM VLADIVOSTOK TO CAM RANH BAY."

4. USLO OFFICER ASKED ABOUT THE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PRC AND INDONESIA. CHEN SAID THAT THE PRC WAS DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN REESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH INDONESIA AND ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH SINGAPORE. HE SAID THAT INDONESIAN INTERNAL POLITICS WERE THE MAIN STUMBLING BLOCK. "SOME INDONESIAN GENERALS DO NOT WANT THE REESTAB-  
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LISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH OUR COUNTRY. MAYBE INDONESIA IS WAITING FOR THE UNITED STATES TO NORMALIZE WITH THE PRC."  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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